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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5818th meeting of the Security Council, held on 11 January 2008, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest possible terms the January 7 attack by elements of the Sudanese Armed Forces, as confirmed by the United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), on a UNAMID supply convoy. The Security Council stresses that any attack on or threat against UNAMID is unacceptable, and demands that there will be no recurrence of attacks on UNAMID. The Security Council welcomes the commitment of the Government of the Sudan to undertake a complete and full investigation into the incident, together with the United Nations/African Union.

"The Security Council welcomes the transition of authority from the AU peacekeeping operation (AMIS) to UNAMID, which occurred on December 31. The Security Council commends AMIS for its prompt action to begin to re-establish peace and security in Darfur.

"The Council calls on the Government of the Sudan to expedite full compliance with Security Council resolution 1769, including through concluding all the necessary arrangements for the expeditious deployment of an effective UNAMID force.

"The Council further urges the Government of the Sudan and all armed groups to respect an immediate and complete ceasefire and demands that all parties cooperate fully with the deployment of UNAMID and respect its security and freedom of movement.

"The Security Council reiterates that an inclusive political settlement and the successful deployment of UNAMID are essential for re-establishing peace and stability in Darfur. The Security Council urges all parties, including rebel groups, to engage fully and constructively in the political process under the leadership of United Nations Special Envoy Mr. Jan Eliasson and African Union Special Envoy Dr. Salim Salim, who have the Council's full support. The Security Council expresses its readiness to take action against any party that impedes the peace process, humanitarian aid, or the deployment of UNAMID. The Council also recognizes that due processes must take their course.

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"The Council expresses concern about the deterioration of security and humanitarian conditions in Darfur and calls upon the UN and all member states to facilitate the rapid and complete deployment of UNAMID. The Council urges capable member states to contribute the helicopter and transportation units necessary to ensure the successful implementation of UNAMID's mandate."

"The Security Council also welcomes the resolutions adopted at the Conference and calls upon the appropriate authorities to act on the recommendations addressed to them. It underscores the need for the Congolese authorities and all political and social stakeholders in North and South Kivu to continue, through dialogue, to seek long-term and comprehensive ways to address the root causes of instability.

"The Security Council reiterates the importance of the commitments undertaken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Government of the Republic of Rwanda in their joint communiqué on a common approach to end the threat posed by illegal armed groups in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to peace and stability in both countries and the Great Lakes region, signed in Nairobi on 9 November 2007 (S/2007/679). It calls on the two Governments to continue to implement fully the joint communiqué, in particular by promptly taking appropriate measures to induce the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and other foreign armed groups to lay down their arms without preconditions and return to their home countries.

"The Security Council encourages the international community, in particular the eastern neighbours of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the Great Lakes region, to fully support the new dynamic launched by the Goma Conference and the Nairobi communiqué, which together represent a major step towards the restoration of lasting peace and stability in the Great Lakes region."

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) and The European Union force (EUFOR TCHAD/RCA), whose deployment in eastern Chad and north-eastern central African Republic was authorized by Resolution 1778 (2007), to contribute to the protection of vulnerable civilian populations and to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance.

"The Security Council expresses its concern over the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, UN personnel and European Union personnel and material deployed in Chad. It underlines that all parties have a responsibility to ensure the protection of all these personnel and of the diplomatic personnel present in Chad."

Prevention of Genocide of the Secretary-General to dispatch missions to Kenya. It calls on Kenya's political leaders to facilitate the work of these missions and looks forward to being informed by the Secretary-General of their findings.

"The Security Council further requests the Secretary-General to report on how the United Nations can further support the mediation efforts in Kenya and on, as necessary, the impact of the crisis on the wider subregion and United Nations operations in the subregion."